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# STUDENT-PROBLEMS

*being*

*Studies in Truth and Life*

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*-by-*

*Mikkel Dahl*

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"SEEK YE OUT OF THE BOOK OF  
THE LORD, AND READ-"

— Is 34:16

To which our Lord added:

"SEARCH THE SCRIPTURE --"

— Jhn 5:39

And we would do well to ponder the Lord's exclamatory question to the theologian of His day:

"HOW READEST THOU?"!

— Lk 10:26

Are YOU willing to READ out  
of THE BOOK? and SEARCH  
the Scripture with the Author  
— that you may enter into the  
joys of the doubly blessed?

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## Reference

### TABLE OF ABBREVIATIONS AND TERMS USED HEREIN, AND THRUOUT OTHER WORKS BY MIKKEL DAHL .

"THOT" as shortened form for Thought.

Brot = brought; Wrot = wrought; Ot = ought.

Tho = though, Altho = although.

Thru = through, Thruout = throughout.

Thoro = thorough, Thoroly = thoroughly.

Enuf - enough; Ruf = rough; Laf = laugh.

The 'u' has been dropped in such words as  
Savio(u)r, Labo(u)r, et cetera.

(.) Periods for abbreviations omitted.

(\*) Asterisks used to set off; emphasis.

A V refers to the Authorized Version

O T = Old Testament; N T = New Testament

Gr = Greek

A M = anno mortality: that is, for the  
time of Adam's 'sin', or about 4000 B.C.

ALL CHRONOLOGY references herein are  
based on the Masoretic text (=the one employ-  
ed thruout the text of the Authorized Version).

# BIBLE CHRONOLOGY

(BASED ON THE AUTHORIZED VERSION)

Order	Names	Age of	Ref.	Anno mortus
(1)	ADAM entered mortality			= A M - 00.00
(2)	Seth born to Adam	= 130	Gen 5	130
(3)	Enos " " Seth	= 105	" "	235
(4)	Cainan Enos	= 90	" "	325
(5)	Mahalaleel Cainan	= 70	" "	395
(6)	Jared Mahala'l	= 65	" "	460
(7)	Enoch Jared	= 162	" "	622
(8)	Methuselah Enoch	= 65	" "	687
	Enoch's translation	= 365	" "	987
(9)	Lamech Methuselah	= 187	" "	874
(10)	NOAH Lamech	= 182	" "	1056
(11)	Shem Noah	= 500	" 5:32	1556
	The Great flood: Noah	= 600	" 7:6	1656
(12)	Arphaxad Shem	= 100	" 11:10	1656
N.B: IF Gen 11:10 means that Shem was 102 yrs. at Arphaxad's birth (instead of the stated 100), then he was born 1658 and all dates following require a 2 year additive.				
(13)	Salah until (20) Abram	= 290 yrs.	Gen 11	1946
(21)	Isaac Abraham	= 100	Gen 21:5	2046
(22)	Jacob Isaac	= 60	" 25:26	2106
(33)	Joseph Jacob	= 91	" 41st, 47th	2197
	Abram's Call Abram	= 75	" 12:4	2021
	Isaac's marriage Isaac	= 40	" 25:20	2086
	Jacob's entry Egypt Jacob	= 130	" 47:9	2236
	" died in Egypt "	= 147	" 47:28	2253
	Joseph death in " Joseph	= 110	" 50:26	2307
	Israel's sojourn in Egypt	= 430	Ex. 12:40-41	2666
(see also Gen 15:13)				
	Israel's exodus from Egypt	= 430		2667
	" sojourn in wilderness	= 40	Ex 16:35	2707
	Israel's entry Canaan was, therefore			2707

N. B: Since the Divine graph (by type) can only show the duration of the EARTH-PILGRIMAGE until Heaven (Canaan) is RE-entered, so does the Bible chronology beyond Canaan CEASE TO BE THE INSPIRED RECORD! The chronology beyond Canaan represents MAN'S effort, and hence abounds in numerous chronological errors and contradictions!

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 THRU = through; THRUOUT = throughout.  
 THORO = thorough; THOROLY = thoroughly;  
 ENUF = enough; RUF = rough; LAF = laugh.

Our full and inane spelling has been retained  
 in such words as sought, caught, et cetera ,  
 to avoid confusion with other words.

(.) Periods for abbreviations omitted.

"A V" refers to Authorized version.

O T = Old Testament; N T = New Testament

Gr used for Greek.

A M used for anno mortality: that is, for the  
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 ployed thruout the text of the A V ).

## Foreword

In the process of years, various members of the student-body, have sent in their questions to Mikkel Dahl. Most of these questions have had to do with mooted Bible issues, and questions of doctrine.

By special bulletins; magazine articles and/or personal letters - the questions and problems have been thoroly dealt with by the Teacher at Pyramid Centre.

By the concensus of opinion - expressed in numerous letters, it is our firm conviction that these questions and answers - commonly called "Student-Problems", are of keen reader-interest; and that they also are very informative.

Because of the variety, and the less formal approach, they have become a favorite phase of the Ministries among a large section of the student membership.

Here, in "Student-Problems" you will likely find many of your own vexing dilemmas answered in plain language; and in a light so few have ever seen before.

Not less than two more issues in this series are expected off the press shortly, likely by early 1962 at the latest. Readers wanting to peruse the sequels, should ask for series #2 and #3 in the "Student-Problems."

- The Publishers.



## *Studies in Truth and Life*

Did Jesus "descend into hell" ? Will there be a PRerapture before the saints go up ? Who are the 'jewels' of Malachi 3:17 ? Is Daniel's 70th week past or future ? Could Christ say to the 5 foolish virgins, 'I do not know you'? - if indeed they belong to Him ?

Mr Thomas Campbell - a retired business man - of Baltimore, has arranged meetings with Church workers, members and Ministers, for the discussion of various issues brot out in my teachings. The extent of his success is not for me to forecast, but I will say that such efforts are VERY HIGHLY COMMENDABLE, and cannot fail but be recorded in Heaven, and favorably so in his behalf.... And to help get certain issues more clearly stated, he has posed a series of questions:

(1) "---some Churches in the Creed include the words: 'He descended into hell' while others omit it. I believe some say t h at the word for hell is mistranslated, and that it should be 'grave.' ---What do you say as to whether Christ went to hell?"

ANSWER: In the Old T. the word is "Sheol" and means a 'chamber.' This was then considered as an underworld of the dead; sometimes it was referred to as the 'grave.' .... In the New T. we have two words rendered 'hell' in the A.V., namely 'Hades' and 'Gehenna.' Hades is the Latin for Sheol. Its literal meaning is 'the unseen.' This is in full harmony with the earlier concept of "an underworld for the dead." ...Gehenna was the valley outside of Jerusalem where refuse was constantly burning; hence the consuming fire therein was used as an apt symbol for the destruction of incorrigible souls - the status of which excluded them from partaking in the Plan of God. Jesus Himself used the word thus. (see Mtt 10:28) ("Gehenna")

We must realize that EVERYTHING in connection with the "chosen people" was PREarranged and determined in the PERFECT Plan of God, to the end that every situation, development and drama portray for us beautifully and TRUTHFULLY the very details of God's Plan for His creation. And in the life of the chief Cornerstone (Capstone) - Jesus Christ - this was brot, or raised to its Nth degree of beauty and perfection, in that His EVERY WORD and His EVERY DEED and His EVERY MOVEMENT (no exception) portrayed the beauty and detail of God's Perfect Plan for man.

Wherefore, as Jerusalem depicts the "New Jerusalem" in t h e

Heavenlies, so does its factual Gehenna portray that place outside which God has prepared for "the destruction of soul and body" of such as are not fit to partake in the New Jerusalem, or in His Kingdom realm.

"Christ has once suffered for sins -- that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but quickened by the Spirit; by which He also went and PREACHED UNTO THE SPIRITS IN PRISON; which sometime were disobedient --- in the days of Noah." (I Ptr 3:18-20) .... "For this cause was the Gospel preached also to them that are dead ----" (ch 4:6) .... "Now that He ascended, what is it but that He also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?" (Eph 4:9)

Putting these various factors together, we see that Sheol or Hades was but the 'grave' to those of a fully materialistic concept who could perceive nothing aside from the BODY. To those with a broader concept, in harmony with the Truth declared by Jesus in Mtt 22 32, then Sheol or Hades is truly the UNSEEN WORLD where live the discarnate spirits, be it with or without a "soul."

Now, into THAT Sheol or Hades (not Gehenna) did the great Christ Spirit descend from the Cross to preach to the Spirits therein the glorious Gospel of Truth wrot out in His REDEMPTIVE WORK for man, past, then present and to come! ..... Or should we suppose that the Christ-Spirit slept, or loafed away those 3 days from Cross to Resurrection? For on that morning He said: "I have NOT YET ascended to my Father ---."

IF we want to PERCEIVE TRUTH, then let us learn the meaning of the words employed, and put the various interlinking passages together that we may get "a whole piece of cloth." For, "here a little, and THERE a little." Thus viewed, we cannot escape the conclusion that Christ did go into Sheol or Hades (no thought of torment therein implied) and PREACH THE GOSPEL unto the spirits IN PRISON.

(2) Here, to save space, I will state the substance of several paragraphs, wherein he questions what Scripture authority - if any - I have for declaring that "a FIRSTFRUITS" is to be taken out of the world BEFORE OTHERS? And if the "saints" are to be translated before or after "the great tribulation"? .... Then he goes on to say that he believes in Ex. Israel is spoken of as "a firstfruits." And that "Ephraim was a firstfruits." Then a quotation from the Epistle which says that "we are a sort of firstfruits." Then "Does that mean the early Christians or all Christians?"

ANSWER: First, I fail to find Israel ever named a "firstfruits". I say not that it isn't in Scripture, for, my memory isn't perfect. But Strong's Exhaustive Concordance fails to give such a reference. Neither do I find it said of Ephraim. I believe our friend has confused "firstfruits" with "the firstBORN". Jer. 31:9 speaks of Ephraim as His "firstBORN". In a very remote and attenuated sense we may say that the firstBORN is a firstfruits, yet we should not take the liberty of saying that the two words are interchangeable. Wherefore, until I find that Israel or Ephraim is named by God as a "firstfruits", I cannot - will not - make any comment thereon.

"Of His own will begot He us with the Word of Truth that we should be a kind of FIRSTFRUITS OF HIS CREATURES." - J a s 1:18

THAT refers to all born-again Christians. But let us observe the words "a kind of --", but not THE firstfruits as spoken of in Rev 14:4. God speaks with meticulous PRECISION. We can only understand Him by THUS considering His Word. A complete explanation of James 1:18 will not here be given, for, it would introduce too broad an horizon for the average Christian, as well as pose a multitude of questions.

Now as to the main question re THE Firstfruits. First let me state clearly and orderly what I teach re the Firstfruits, the rapture and translation and the great Tribulation:

"The firstfruits unto God and the Lamb" are precisely 144,000 which will be raptured, or taken suddenly out of this world. THAT takes place on the 10th of Nisan about 3 1/2 years BEFORE H i s return to earth. It is also BEFORE the opening of the Tribulation's fury. These are those, and will fulfil the promise unto the P h i ladelphians in Rev 3:10, wherein He states that He will "keep thee from the HOUR OF TEMPTATION, which shall come upon all the world, to TRY them that dwell upon the earth." This event is also synonymous with the "hour of the thief in the night" when " h i s house shall be BROKEN UP." (Lk 12:39). This event is also one and the same as THE FIVE WISE VIRGINS who had oil in their lamps and went with the bridegroom to the marriage. .... Precisely 1260 solar days following THAT 10th of Nisan will the "translation of the saints" take place, synchronizing with the resurrection of the dead (that is, of Some of the dead, for, there is to be more than one resurrection). This takes place 14-15 solar days before the END of the Tribulation, which moment precisely

coincides with the Lord's bodily and visible return to earth. For, it is He who terminates the war at His coming.... The mighty impact of His feet on Mt Olivet will be more than the sin stained earth can take, for the mountain shall scatter to the north and south, and the earth be given a fresh shaking to clear away the remaining rubbish; to change it in its orbit to harmonize with the Kingdom era inaugurating.

Mr Campbell wonders about Scriptural background, or if my teachings are based on inspiration and revelation.... I have had an abundance of inspiration and revelations to make possible this End-time Work. But observe, unless I could find an abundance of Scriptures to BACK UP these revelations, I would personally REJECT THEM as being but "false visions." God has given A COMPLETE AND DETAILED REVELATION up to the end of this era - and somewhat beyond, and all of the same has been faithfully recorded for all people and all time, both in the written Word and in a bulwark of stone. And may I here counsel every reader to fully reject any and all alleged "revelations" UNLESS such be in full accord with the complete Revelation given by God personally thru and to His "chosen", and sealed for all time to come..... My inspirations and revelations have only been to sweep away cobwebs gathered in "the NIGHT when no man could work"; to piece together the "here a little and there a little" into one whole and beautiful cloth, so complete in marvelous perfection that not even one little flaw can be found.

To understand Truth and to fully view His Plan, it is essential that we carefully consider the meaning of words used. If any "interpretation" is needed, God supplies it in the selfsame revelation. It is not for me nor any mortal to say that His Word means this or that contrary to the literal and apparent meaning. We may say that it means MORE than what appears on the surface, but never anything different or CONTRARY! And because our Theologians and would-be Teachers have "wrested" the Word of God to suit the "deceit of their own hearts", have we today a multitude of "teachings", babble and confusion, with only little traces of Truth here and there! Even an embryo intellect does realize that IF the Word of God were to be taken AS IS, there could only be ONE VOICE and "teaching". Here I write according to my understanding of English, and to clearly set forth that which is in mind. IF you will all "take me at my word" you will all get the same meaning. But IF you say to yourselves: 'We KNOW He doesn't mean what he appears to say', then will you arrive at a

multitude of differing conclusions, ALL of which will be in conflict with what I write. THAT - beloved - is what our Theologians have done, Catholic and Protestant alike!

Wherefore, let us be rational and HONEST intellectual beings to discern the meaning of His words: not to hatch up concocted "interpretations."

"FIRSTFRUITS." Surely every English speaking person knows its meaning. Stop, STOP! I say in your mad scramble to be "intellectual" and to hatch up some yarn of interpretation for it. Take God at His Word! Has He not sufficient intelligence to use the correct words? Or does He lack in that spiritual honesty to SAY WHAT HE MEANS? Or maybe you say: The language of the day was not adequate to properly convey His meaning! What balderdash! WHY "limit the Holy One of Israel"? EVERY STEP and move had He ordained. ALL of it was planned ages before its manifestation. Wherefore, IF the language was inadequate, then God was to blame! (Beloved, no fault shall be found in Him!) Therefore do I say: What balderdash!

We all know that a "firstfruits" is a small portion of the grain or fruit - or what be it - that ripens EARLIER THAN THE BALANCE. And under the Mosaic Law, such was to be gathered promptly (Before the harvest or vintage) and brot unto the priests as an OFFERING UNTO GOD. .. Then in Lev 23 we see where a sheaf of the firstfruits of the grain should be gathered and WAVED before the Lord. .. Of this same firstfruits grain TWO LOAVES of bread had to be prepared, and they should be baked WITH LEAVEN (= hypocrisy, false appearance: sin), and they should be WAVED BEFORE THE LORD by the priest.

First God shows us that the "firstfruits" belong to Him. Then He commands that 2 loaves of bread are to be prepared thereof WITH LEAVEN and offered unto the Lord as "a firstfruits". Then the Lord Himself takes bread and says: "This is my BODY ----". Showing us that the two wave-loaves typify human BODIES. Neither can we say that they were fulfilled in the resurrected Jesus and ascended Christ, for, they were baked WITH LEAVEN. No Christian believer can attribute deception and sin to the Christ! Wherefore they typify common mortals.... Then in the last book of His Revelation to man, He speaks specifically of 144,000 who "were redeemed from among men, being the FIRSTFRUITS unto God and to the Lamb" (Rev 14:4). In verse 3 we are told that they were "redeemed FROM THE EARTH". ... No man can word it more lucidly! Neither can there be the slightest misun-

derstanding of His Word - UNLESS we are blinded by preconceived ideas, and /or by the fabrications of a clique named Theologians..... In the 1st verse of same chapter they are seen WITH THE LAMB. Now get this clearly: there are no false symbols, pictures or scenes used. Everything is in its place because God Himself has thus ordained it. And the "Lamb" links with the Paschal Lamb which was for Israel's deliverance. John the Baptist pointed his very finger at Jesus of Nazareth and declared to the people that Jesus was that Lamb of God to take away the sins of the world. Now mark this: as long as His Redemptive Work is in process; so long as the Era of Grace is still open for sinners to receive the cleansing blood of God's Lamb, precisely that long is Jesus THE LAMB. As soon as that era closes and "He takes the reins to reign", He is no longer the Lamb, but the KING MAJESTIC. Wherefore, the 144,000 being seen with the LAMB, does in itself tell us that THAT event and scene is BEFORE the termination of the present era; it is BEFORE He has taken the power to REIGN. AND THAT THE SAID SCENE is NOT one staged by common mortals here on earth we are shown in the 3rd verse where they sang "before the throne" - because they had been "redeemed FROM THE EARTH".

Ancient Israel crossed Jordan on DRY GROUND on the 10th of Nisan, entering the Promised Land from the East unto the West. The 10th of Nisan was the day that the Paschal Lamb was shut up in preparation for its sacrifice. This day, therefore, links with Jesus who became God's Lamb, and with such who have FULLY ACCEPTED Him to such extent that they have their "Father's name in their foreheads". And we read more of their qualifications in verses 4-5. Israel crossed on dry ground. This is the picture of DEATH being held back, wherein the GREAT DESCENDER (Jordan) had no power over them. This is the beautiful picture of THE FIRSTFRUITS being taken home to their promised land with death STAYED to not touch them.... And they enter from the East (man's intellectual, carnal world-concept of things) into the West (the true estate of Spirit and Worship)..... Now ADD to the 10th of Nisan precisely 1260 days and you will find that it is precisely the 1st of Tishri - which is the Feast of Trumpets. At the 1st trump the bands of Israel were alerted and stood at readiness by their tents. At the 2nd blast they MARCHED. Wherefore the symbol picture is perfect and beautiful, showing us that as the wave-loaves are hoisted by THE PRIEST; as a body of Christians with their imperfections, false appearances (the "leaven" of sin"), shall cross over without being touched by death,

so is that precisely 1260 before the ingathering of the main harvest when the mighty host of Israel marches at "the last trump." And they can march on no other day than the Feast of Trumpets. Or do you suppose that God pulled a random number out of the hat to help Him set the dates for the Holy Festivals! ..... Also in the 12th ch. of Rev. are we twice shown this number of 1260 as being the era of the Woman's seed being persecuted.....

As to the 14-15 days between the Translation of the Saints and His return to earth, that is A MUST. For, there are that many days between the Feast of Trumpets (Tishri 1st) and the Feast of Tabernacles (Tishri 15th). The Lord can come to earth on no other day! Or maybe we are to believe that He invented fictitious dates to deceive His Elect!

Many stumble over I Thes 1:10, where we are told that He has "delivered us from the wrath to come". They then go on to declare that the Great Tribulation is God's "wrath" here on earth. Wherefore, say they, the Church of Christ is NOT to go thru the tribulation. To this is a very simple and clear answer. First, the "firstfruits" are especially His Church, in fact The Church. And they shall see nothing of the Tribulation's fury. Secondly, the tribulation is not especially God's wrath any more so than tribulation which Christian individuals have experienced, EXCEPT for the last 14-15 days of the tribulation, when the "vials of wrath" of God's fury is to be poured out on the earth. The "tribulation" runs its course, but the first of the 7 vials of wrath will not be opened until the translation of the Saints has taken place. They are confined to the two last weeks.

As to "the great multitude" our friend refers to, which were seen AFTER the sealing of the 144,000, we find in 7:14 that the angel clearly states that they "came OUT OF the great Tribulation." The context here clearly indicates that they went thru - at least a portion of - the tribulation. And the word "after" bears no clue as to the length of time, or their duration in the tribulation.

Thus - beloved - IF we will take the Word of God AS IS, there is no other conclusion at which to arrive than as here stated. And if we wonder, then we have the Festival dates together with other stated prophetic measures which fit as "hand in glove" to the end that there shall be no room left for doubt. And to all of this can be added numerous attestations by TYPE, many of which I have elucidated in "Rebekah's Veil" and other portions of my writings. If then, we will not accept the plain and simple word of God, which as an all wise and loving Father He has declared to His children,

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our alternative is to swallow the "doctrines of men" founded in man's erudition which rejects the simplicity and beauty of God's revealed Word. And when you so do, please bear in mind that as you accept the teachings of the erudite of this world, you flatly reject Christ's clearcut statement that unless you will RECEIVE IT like unto a little child, you shall by no means enter into the Kingdom of God.....

(3) "The 'gems' or 'jewels' you refer to in your writings could mean all the saints rather than just the 'firstfruits.'"

ANSWER: Carelessly viewed, yes, but carefully considered NO! These we read about in Malachi 3:17, whereof He says: "I will SPARE THEM as a man spareth his own son that serveth him." This son who serves the father is a beautiful parallel to Rev 14:4 of those who "follow the Lamb whither soever He goeth."..... And we see they are to be "spared". From what? Manifestly the tribulation..... But what are "jewels"? Is it clothing? Or is it a body? You know the answer! In numerous Old T. passages are we told how the JEWELS were used for "ornaments". (It seems to be the same even in this day.) Whereby we see when we fully consider the word, and its connections back thru the pages of God, that these "jewels" are a special group so "rare" in contrast to the balance, that He shall SPARE (snatch away) them that they may be as an ORNAMENT to stud the raiment of His body with super-glistening lights. (Bring forth the Scripture which is not an essential detail of the beauty and majesty of His MARVELOUS PLAN!)

(4) "Does the 70-week prophecy of Daniel apply?"

ANSWER: No! Every little detail thereof was fulfilled by His people, and by the Messiah who was "cut off" in the middle of the 70th week. He brot in "everlasting righteousness" to a sin-cursed world, and more fully to those who RECEIVE Him. "And for t h e overspreading of abominations" it should remain desolate unto the end. THAT did the Jews when they continued animal sacrifices, rejecting the ALL-sufficient One and complete fulfilling of their Law. In pouring out the animal blood, they decreed DESOLATION unto their city and a scattering of themselves.

(5) "In the Parable of the Virgins, do you think Christ would say: 'I do not know you' to the careless ones, IF in fact, they are believers in Him, and eventually going to Heaven?"

ANSWER: This again comes back to the meaning of words. First we have "virgins." The foolish were fully as much so as the wise. And their conduct was identical: SLEEPING! We all know the



meaning of the word. Scripturally it is used to portray a people who refuses intercourse and contamination with A WORLD STEEPED IN SIN; keeping herself clean and fit for her Lord who is "married" unto her. Wherefore, we have no right to say that they are not all of the same elected and betrothed body.

Read now John 7:28 and 8:19. Casually viewed it is a contradiction. But in the first instance ('1' or 1st placement is for BODY) He referred to their knowledge of Him as in the physical body; His parentage, etc. In the 2nd instance (2nd placement for SOUL) He declared that they had no knowledge of Him! ..... In Jhn 14:9 the Christ said to Phillip: "have I been so long with you and yet hast thou not KNOWN me, Phillip?" Here again we see where knowledge of and acquaintance with the man Jesus, could still leave room for KNOWING Him. We must therefore enter into a deeper understanding of this word "know", and how God uses it.

Come then with me to the Old T. and see how God used it when speaking of His elected people.

"-- thy God led thee these 40 years in the wilderness, to humble thee and to prove thee, to KNOW what was in thine heart, whether thou would keep His commandments, or no." - Deut 8:2. For supplementary passages, you may read also 8:16; 33:8; Jdgs 2:22 and 3:4, as well as Ex 16:4 & 20:20.

As we see in the one above quoted, and supported by the references given, God sought to KNOW His people by putting them thru numerous TESTS and trials, to see how they would "PROVE" themselves. We might rightly surmise that God knew beforehand what they would do, but He couldn't very well CORRECT them for that which they had not already done, or failed to do. The "proving" is equally as much for the individual himself. This PROVING links with knowledge based on factual WORKS. The same that we see conversely in Ex 16:12. This PROVING links with the number 40.

It isn't enuf that a person has good and right intentions; he must PROVE himself that such goodness may become an INBUILT reality. It isn't enuf that a Christian believer be cleansed and Baptized with His Spirit Fire: he must PROVE the virtue of this, and demonstrate both to himself and God what he will DO with this great blessing.

As brot out in my Article on the 10 Virgins, the oil in lamp is the Holy Spirit received at Spirit Baptism. And the 5 foolish ones went immediately to secure for themselves. They succeeded!

And immediately clamor to be LET IN. But no TIME is elapsed. No TESTS have been endured. God requires that they be PROVED - that He may "know them." Wherefore, they too must take their lot "with the unbeliever" that He may KNOW them."... At the end of the tribulation, and on the 1st of Tishri, they will then be PROVEN, wherefore they shall hear the 1st and 2nd "trump" of God and arise to meet Him.

Beloved, there is no FLAW in the Word of God, but only with man's reading thereof and his "interpretations."

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Can one's 'salvation' be lost? And what about the apparent conflicts (with either perspective) thru other passages? Does the Spirit of the Creator, dwell in each individual human being alike?

\* "Seest thou a man that is hasty in his words? there is  
\* more hope of a fool than of him!" Prov 29:20 \*

Wherefore, it is always a joy to perceive my students THINK, and PROBE and evidence it by asking questions. (This is said with the contrast in mind of those with "a LITTLE knowledge, quick to come forth with "hasty words" to correct me in the Scripture, and teach me wisdom.....)

There are two questions before me - founded in Scripture - which I shall endeavor to deal with here. Yet to do so, links with the "INTERPRETATION of Scripture." (I have hopes of writing - in the near future - an Article dealing with the "interpretation" of Scripture. But even the answering of simple questions, borders on that very subject.)

(1) Mr T G C of Baltimore, says:

"You have said that one cannot lose his salvation... This statement is supported by Bible authority. .... You say if one goes back to wicked ways, far better had he never sought salvation.... Here too we find Bible passages in support.... But are not the two in CONFLICT? And how can we reconcile them?"

To answer this question and get a clear understanding of the matter, it is essential to first get a very clear understanding of the Scriptures involved. Usually, when once we understand WHAT is

said, and to WHOM it is said, or OF WHOM it was spoken; the misty questions distil into the glorious sunshine. Countless problems, seeming contradictions and false teachings arise, simply because the time is not taken (by our teachers), nor the spiritual honesty exercised, to discern these three factors: (1) WHAT is the true and original meaning of the words used? (2) To WHOM was it spoken; or OF WHOM? and (3) To WHEN does it apply?

As to "salvation," comparatively few Christians know the meaning of the word as it is used in the Bible! Hence the multitudinous arguments and concepts.

The details of the various STEPS on the return trip to God, cannot here be fully covered, but let us take a quick glance: God, speaking of "the tree of knowledge of good and evil," said to Adam: "In the day thou eatest thereof, THOU SHALT SURELY DIE!" God had spoken to the objectively conscious Adam. And in less than 23 "hours" after Adam's "eating" thereof, the objectively conscious Adam was a corpse! For, clearly is it recorded that "a thousand years are but as ONE DAY with the Lord." Thus we get:

$$\frac{930 \text{ (years)} \times 24 \text{ (hrs)}}{1000} = 22.32 \text{ (hrs). as Adam's survival.}$$

Eve was with him, partaking in the same destiny. Eve typifies the human soul. Hence, BODY and SOUL became subject to, and entered into DEATH as a consequence of disobedience (unto God); which disobedience - whatever its form - we now term "sin." (The Bible puts it: "The wages of sin is DEATH." Wherefore, "salvation" is nothing more nor less than being FREED from the consequence of original "sin", in order that LIFE might reign - time without end - in BOTH BODY AND SOUL. Our Christian clergy preach LIFE for the soul, but postpone life for the body until following the resurrection. That is, they teach a very partial salvation. And mixed up with that "salvation", is "heaven" - land of unending glory - which is to be the home for every "saved" person. THAT is why I say that few Christians know the meaning of "salvation." The average concept could be worded: Saved from hell and sent to Heaven! Yet "salvation" has not the slightest connection with "heaven", aside from it being a requisite to its entrance.

In my various writings I have endeavored to show clearly the THREE steps on man's return road to God. (These have been dealt with in The Prophetic Logos, in Rebekah's Veil and more fully detailed in the Tabernacle studies.) For the moment we shall briefly scan them as detailed in the new Logos issue, #9. The

Lord depicted these stages by

	30-fold	60-fold	and	100-fold
corresponding to:	'blade'	'ear'	"	'full corn in ear'
"	"	'ask'	"	'knock'
"	"	'bread'	"	'egg'
and again as:	'1st loaf'	'2nd loaf'	"	'3rd loaf'

The last mentioned being with reference to the THREE loaves for the friend at midnight. Precisely the same three steps we see typified in the Mosaic Tabernacle by the (1) Outer, or Profane court, (2) The Holy place for the Levites, and (3) The MOST HOLY where alone the High Priest could enter.

In modern Christendom, we find these three groups to answer to (1) The CONTRITE heart who looks to Christ: desirous to be Free from the thralldom or sin" (2) the "born-again" who has received LIFE thru the "incorruptible seed", and (3) Fully SANCTIFIED in and thru the Holy Spirit BAPTISM.

Countless so-called Christians today are not even in the 1st category! They are "contrite" over nothing! Neither do they seek liberation from "bondage to sin," but on the contrary, REJOICE in their capacity to sin; believing in no brakes on their passions and conduct except to the required extent of being "a good citizen."

As the 1st, the Outer or "Profane Court" in the Tabernacle, was but within a low-hung "shelter" wherein DEATH reigned, so neither is there any "LIFE eternal," nor "LIFE immortal" for the "30-fold." Theirs is but A PROMISE, conditioned by numerous IFs! "LIFE" is not a possession until "born-again": when the veil has been passed, and when within the 2nd but first COMPLETE shelter, the 7-pronged Candelabra yields its Spirit (gold) LIGHT for the Soul (south), and the table laden with bread provides sustenance for the BODY (north).

GET this picture, and GET IT CLEARLY: THREE (3) categories. (1) God has REVEALED Himself: His Grace has been made manifest: the call has gone forth to prepare for the departure from "Egypt" and to get FREED from "bondage to the Egyptians," that the lusts of the flesh should no longer rule over body and soul. (2) That the DIVINE LAW might be received into the human heart: that LIFE might reign instead of death, and (3) that God's Power might come down to SANCTIFY: that a full and free FELLOWSHIP might be re-established, granting SANCTION to enter into the very presence of God (Heaven).

With this clearcut pattern in mind, we see how the 30-fold "Chris-

tians" have neither "eternal" nor "immortal life." Nevertheless, their stage or "group" IS THE MOST IMPORTANT! This, in the same sense that A DOOR is the most important part of a house. For, without the DOOR, the house could serve no one any good. But with a knowledge of the DOOR, and a willingness to use it for entry, the GREAT HOUSE shall yield its comfort and treasures! Now let us scrutinize the problem. What I have previously written is not so important, but rather let us look intensely at THE INSPIRED RECORD:

Here, I shall not enter the discussion of "LIFE"; its SECURITY, nor the question of IF it can be lost. THAT is fully covered in the Tabernacle series; and far too profound and vast to be taken up here. So let us look to the second part of the problem, as to how or WHY it would have been better had he never sought (salvation), than seeking but turning back.

Of Judas Iscariot, Jesus said that it would have been better (for him) had he never been born. (Mtt 26:24). Here, however, we must realize that Judas had never entered into "Life." The LIFE which He came to give is not received until a true CONVERSION. Even to the foundation-apostle, Jesus said at the last Supper: "Simon --- when you ARE CONVERTED, strengthen your brethren!" (Lk 22:32). As I see it, Peter's "conversion" had its inception when he stood before the Empty Tomb; and received its QUICKENING when the risen Lord of LIFE stood before him! THEN he believed! THEN did the past become OLD - as thru FAITH he entered into the NEW, and his life was CHANGED (converted).

Wherefore, as LIFE is not received previous to the SECOND step; and, whereas Peter had NOT entered into LIFE by the time of the Last Supper, we may safely surmise that Judas Iscariot had assuredly NOT entered into LIFE. He had heard the Call; he had been made acquainted with the Door, and taught of The Way; yet he chose to race back into "Egypt" and make a league therewith. ... Wherefore, the sad estate which Judas entered was not thru anything he lost, but rather thru THE OPPORTUNITY unto LIFE he slapped in the face, and The DOOR to which he turned his back!

Let us next look to II Ptr 2:18-22, with special attention to v 21: "--for it had been better for them to not have known the way of righteousness ----."

Here we are brot back to a study of words. When once we understand the meaning of the original words used, then shall we perceive the Truth, and have no occasion to "interpret" Scripture.

In the passage just quoted from Peter, the word used is "epigno." Perhaps better understood if we write it "epi-gno." We find the same word liberally scattered thru the N.T. A few instances to grant better insight to its meaning can be found in Mtt 14:35; Lk5: 22, 7:37 and 24:16. Translators of the A.V. stuck doggedly to one English word ("know") to cover three distinctly different words in the Greek, being "epigno," "gno" and "eido." ..... As can be seen from the above references, the English word RECOGNIZE would be far more suitable, bespeaking awareness, or taking cognizance of. Then the Greek "eido" which is better translated TO PERCEIVE; and finally the Greek "gno" which is correctly rendered KNOW, or to have an INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE OF. This latter we find in Jhn 7:27, 14:9 and 17:3, and similarly used in other places.

Thus we see that Peter says of those who "epi-gno" the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and commence to ESCAPE from the pollutions of the world, IF they again become entangled therein, it would have been better for them to not have "epi-gno" the Way of Righteousness.

As soon as we discern the difference between the RECOGNITION (epi-gno) of the Savior and His WAY of Righteousness, and that of a deep, profound and personal KNOWLEDGE ("gno"), which comes thru personal experience, then we realize at once that Peter is speaking of a group precisely the same as in which was found Judas Iscariot and that motley assembly within the Outer or Profane Court. He is writing of those who are in the 30-fold: those who have heard the Call and have been made acquainted with The WAY and, finding partial shelter within the Profane Court commence to "escape the pollutions of the world" thru A RECOGNITION (epi-gno) of the SAVING POWER of Jesus Christ. To make this understanding doubly sure for us, Peter winds up by comparing them to a dog and to a sow. In consciousness, Peter still belonged to the era of the clean and the UNclean. Both the Dog and the sow were UNclean animals under the Mosaic Law. And to its CONSCIOUSNESS was Peter still tied. Therefore he used those two illustrations to indicate that he was speaking of UNclean people (still "in their sins".) Had he written of "saved" people: persons "cleansed from their sins" and made "a new creature in Jesus Christ," he would assuredly not have symbolized them by UNclean animals..... Wherefore, these were but in the first shelter, their future conditioned by IFs. They had entered into no LIFE: they had nothing to lose - save that glorious and SACRED OPPOR-

TUNITY to enter at The DOOR into "life everlasting." BETTER, for them, he says, had they never become acquainted with t h a t WAY thru a recognition of Christ the Savior! ..... With KNOWLEDGE comes responsibility! To recognize the Truth and to behold The DOOR, yet turn aside before an entry is made, is to play loose and fast with LIFE; THAT is man's option; yet a very serious defaulting which God will not overlook, nor quickly make it up again to the recalcitrant in heart.

On another occasion, Jesus spoke similarly of those who deliberately cause "one of these little ones who believe in me" to STUMBLE.... Here it should need no wordage to make it evident that He was not speaking of a 'born-again' believer, but rather of the stoutly UNbelieving. (on the approaches to the 30-fold).

Momentarily, I can but recall one more Scripture of similar wording. THAT is in Mtt 12:43-45, where He declared that the "last state" of such a person would be worsethan the first. THEN He pronounced THAT to befall that generation. The seed of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob had had their "ups and downs," yet had managed to stay mostly within their God-given land. In Egypt t h e y spent 430 at first, which was by far their worst lot up to the time of Christ... The Lord DROVE OUT "the UNclean Spirit": t h a t their house might be clean. They came to "epi-gno" the Lord of LIFE and the WAY of Righteousness. The DOOR stood open in their midst. \*YET THEY WOULD NOT ENTER!\* Wherefore, 7 other spirits more evil than the 1st banded together to obsess those who made light of the WAY UNTO LIFE. And He predicted their last estate to become worse than the 1st! In 70 AD. t h e y were again driven out and more ignominiously than ever before. And almost 19 CENTURIES passed before they were again given a new chance! THEREIN has God shown us thru the example of a nation, the great time, the horror and suffering, invited by the individual who comes to an "epi-gno" consciousness of "The WAY of Life", yet voluntarily rejects it in the footprints of Judas!

With these factors of Truth fully considered, I see nothing but HARMONY; with one statement and fact as but a corroboration, and a supplementation of the other Scriptures.

(2) Mrs Jack M, writes: "Does the Spirit of the Creator, dwell in each individual human being alike, whether they are 'saved' or not?"

Perhaps this question does not appear so important to many, but in my position I have become aware of an immense amount of confusion and misunderstanding with reference to this matter of His

"indwelling Holy Spirit." Hence, to such extent as possible in very limited space, I wish to clear away some cobwebs. Yet I am aware that to do it justice, a small volume is required.

I have gathered that it is a common Christian concept that a portion of God's Spirit is received at a specified moment in Christian experience. That, therefore, God factually dwells within every such person, much in the same sense that a portion of the ocean resides within each body! Or even in a drop of water!

I am well aware that many Bible passages can lead to such a concept. Yet with today's advance of science, and man's increasing capacity to discern between fact and fiction, I believe we are expected to DISCERN THE TRUTH and abandon concepts which have been fostered in darkness and ignorance.

Many would-be "teachers" have taken such fragmentary Scriptures and promulgated an "I AM" concept, declaring God FACTUALLY within each person.

First, my answer is a qualified "YES!" God dwells in each person, saved or otherwise, in the selfsame sense that a child is embryonically his father. Yet even that is but partially true. And when the little son gets a smattering of understanding, someone might deceive him into believing that he is FACTUALLY his big, strong and wise father! Yet so far as we know today, no amount of "meditations" or "concentration" nor "affirmations" by the 4 or 5-year old boy will enable him to flex his muscles and hoist a 100 - pound weight over his head, nor yet to go out into a world of "hard facts and cold knocks" to "bring home the bacon." It will call for a great many years of both mental and muscular development before he can assay to fill his father's shoes.....

The man does not beget something foreign to himself. Similarly can we safely surmise that God ("A Spirit") has begotten "spirits" which are - in substance - true to His own. The Bible declares Him as "The Father of spirits" (Heb 12:9); and "He forms the Spirit of man within him" (Zech 12:1.) God is called "a FATHER." God is "a SPIRIT". If a bachelor invents a machine, do we call him "a father" as a result? Only when he has begotten his own kind can we call him that. Similarly with God who is "a Spirit." Creating the physical Adam and Eve made Him NOT a father! But His begetting the SPIRIT which dwelled within, made Him "a Father!" And, in the sense that He would not beget something foreign to His own nature and substance, may we rightfully conclude that the spirit (the HUMAN spirit) within EVERY individual, is of God, and hence potentially capable of eventually coming into the



measure and the stature of his Father! Yet the well nigh inconceivable magnitude of that chasm between the potential (embryonically). and the FULNESS of the Father's stature, is so staggering that none but a consummate fool will allow the ego to swell it the thot: I am God!

But now for the other perspective, whereby the Christian believes that God-in-person, factually enters the human body of every believer to DWELL therein.

I believe it would be difficult to prove the matter one way or the other thru clearcut Bible statements. But by TYPE, linked to statements it becomes easy. First let us consider the words of Jesus, wherein He said that "a house divided against itself cannot stand." This we are told time and again ACTUALLY happened in the case of the "obsessed" or those "possessed of an evil spirit." They became evil and uncontrollable; they ceased to be normal human beings! TWO spirits were within: the "house was divided" and hence it "fell!" Conversely, IF the Spirit of God enters a man to FACTUALLY dwell there, then TWO spirits inhabit the body. Consequently there would be division, and its fall would be sure! We might say its "fall" would be UPWARD, and hence ALL GOOD..... A measure of this we observe in Christians, yet it would be folly to declare them ALL good.... And if God in person is actually there, we should infer that His Spirit is sufficiently strong to dominantly RULE (unto good). Yet countless Christians evidence much to the contrary!

Back to the Mosaic Tabernacle! Within the Holy of Holies abode the Shekinah Glory between the wings of the Cherubim. And clearly are we told that He detailed the Tabernacle's construction, that He might "dwell among them." But did God FACTUALLY dwell in the Wilderness Tabernacle? Positively NO! Time and again we are told that He "came down", and at other times He was SEEN to come down to meet with Moses. Did God project a mirage or illusion to deceive the people? God is not a deceiver! When His Glory was seen to DESCEND to overshadow the Tabernacle, and to commune with Moses, that meant that He DID SO! And its corollary? God did NOT - would not - dwell in a little 10 x 10 cubicle erected by carnal man! He had placed a spirit-substance there (for lack of a better term). It was His "seal," and His "mace" of authority: a vibrational PROJECTION for the keeping of the sanctuary. What was true of the Mosaic Tabernacle, IS ALSO TRUE OF THE CHRISTIAN TODAY!

I mentioned the progress of science... Today, Mr. Eisenhower is

the American President. Supposing then, that those of you with a T V set in your home behold the President on the T V screen: is "Ike" then in your home? You hear his voice and he seems to look at you! Which will you believe: your senses or your reason? Is "Ike" in your home? ANSWER that question unto yourself, and in so doing you will have answered the other - as to whether or not a portion of God is within you! Or maybe God is less advanced technologically than man!

But some will retort: God can be at all places simultaneously! Maybe! Personally I will abide in the REVEALED WORD, and I will stick to that which I can understand, granting full right to the simple and credulous to dwell in fiction.... Clearly are we told that man is made in "the image of God." Man is a being with clearly defined outlines. The space he occupies is very limited. IF God is otherwise, then is the Scripture false!

But coming back to "Ike" and to T V. He can appear in a million American homes at any given moment! He can speak to ALL of his people in the same breath....Is God less?

In the Tabernacle series I have clarified the step-by step stages in Christian experience, and shown how God places a FACTUAL something (fully explained) within every born-again Christian. This corresponds to the Shekinah Glory in the Holiest. Later, IF the Christian persists, and "knocks", then a Power-projection by His Spirit TOUCHES, to consume the dross, and to SANCTIFY the Tabernacle, and to ATTUNE (with God) certain CENTERS within, enabling man to receive from God directly, promptings and messages - even as the voice of Ike may come thru your T V speaker \* IF \* it is tuned in!

You see and you hear "Ike" in your home, yet there is no portion of him there! In the days of Moses, God had to "come down" - His Glory being seen to descend - in order to converse with Moses. FACTUALLY, He dwelt NOT in the Tabernacle... Because of a certain mechanical-etrical attunement, you hear and see your President, or someone else. Similarly, because of a physical-spiritual "attunement" set up by God within man, can He be said to "dwell within." As Ike and the T V image are distinctly separate; as the Shekinah Light in the small cubicle was NOT God-in-person, neither is any portion of God placed in the believer!

## *Studies in Truth and Life*

Why the multiplicity of voices, or 'confusion of tongues' ?  
Does the 'fig-tree' symbolize the Jewish nation ?    What  
were the words in the originals - translated 'eternal' and  
everlasting ?

\*\*\* "WISDOM is a defence, ----- but the excellency of KNOW-

\*\*\* LEDGE is that WISDOM GIVES LIFE TO THOSE WHO POS -

\*\*\* SESS IT." - Ecc 1:12

In this issue I wish to deal with two Student-problems, both of which link up with a third problem. Perhaps this third could be labelled the "confusion of tongues," or the CONFUSION set up thru the multiplicity of discordant voices.

If a man aspires to the practise of Medicine or Law or Astronomy, or any one of the many fields of higher learning, it is likely he will have to spend about 7 years or more of specialized study. But when it comes to the field of RELIGION, many persons have the idea that a few snatches of study entitle them to expound with authority - IN THAT FIELD OF DIVINE SCIENCE WHICH IS FAR MORE VAST THAN MEDICINE OR LAW, AND AS UNBOUNDED AS THE UNENDING REACHES OF SPACE! Yet others have spent some years of specialized study AS VIEWED THRU THE TINTED GLASSES OF BAPTISTS, METHODISTS, LUTHERANS or RCATHOLICS, and immediately they too believe they have the authority to speak with finality!

- Yet that one simple fact of MANY DENOMINATIONS should be ample proof to the simplest intellect THAT AMONG THEM IS NO AUTHORITY! Let us transfer a similar situation to the realm of LAW. An important case is before the Judge. The prosecution goes to the offensive "according to the Law by Prof. We know it," (the hypothetical name of a Law-dreamer), while the Defense seeks to justify his client "according to the Law by Prof. This is it" (another Law-dreamer). Would not the Judge soon be exasperated with them both, and clear the court until a Prosecution and Defense could be secured who would battle "according to the LAW OF THE LAND", rather than according to dreamer This and wisher That ? .... Similarly in religion. So long as your ears are open to a multiplicity of voices, just that long will both confusion and delusion reign in your life of religious thot.

THAT is why God has imbedded HIS SIGNATURE THRUOUT THE ENTIRETY OF HIS REVELATION TO MAN - that the unquestionable and DIVINE AUTHORITY may be evident. THAT is why I REVEAL HIS DIVINE SIGNATURE in all my writings (or almost all); that little children may know I speak not "ACCORDING to this school of thot, neither ACCORDING to that" but according TO THE TUTORSHIP OF HIS DIVINE SPIRIT; founded in "the Law and the Prophets" and in "the sealed testimony"; while the refutation of these Truths I challenge! Was it not said by the greatest prophet of old: "He who has the bride IS THE BRIDEGROOM"? Even so should the simple understand today that he WHO REVEALS THE DIVINE INSIGNIA, HEARS THE VOICE OF TRUTH. And this DIVINE INSIGNIA SHALL GROW AND SPREAD OVER THE FACE OF THE EARTH THAT THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE LORD MAY BE ITS FULNESS - EVEN AS WATERS FILL THE SEA. And remember these words: NEITHER IS THERE ANY FULNESS OF TRUTH EXCEPT THRU THOSE COMMISSIONED: ALL OF WHOM HAVE BEEN EMPOWERED TO REVEAL THE DIVINE CREDENTIAL! AND WHERESOEVER THERE IS NO DIVINE CREDENTIAL REVEALED, THERE IS LITTLE KNOWLEDGE OF TRUTH!

Here I wish to quote from the letter of Miss Elsa M. H. - a faithful and beloved student, as well as from a little brochure she enclosed:

"Listening to 'the Chosen People' time -- this Mr. Cohen -- said the Ministers of the pulpits have said that the Fig Tree is the symbol of the Jews, WHICH IS THE MOST WRONG THING THAT CAN BE SAID. Jesus never cursed the Jewish people; if He had there wouldn't be any left now!" While highlighting from his brochure:

"We showed that one of the great sins of certain Bible teachers are that they deliberately keep on teaching the false hypothesis that the fig tree has to do with the Jewish nation. --- He (Jesus) simply used the fig tree as an illustration, because the fig tree is the commonest tree in Palestine. -- How anyone can fabricate the idea that the Jews are here referred to, is beyond understanding. --- To put the matter even more plainly, we could say that if the Lord had been in America at that time, instead of in Jerusalem, He might have said: 'Learn a parable of the apple tree.' --- Nowhere in the Word of God will you find that Israel is called the fig tree. --- The fig tree was cursed forever. --- If however, Israel as the fig tree is cursed forever, how can there be a restoration? --- If the root is dried up, how can there ever again be fruit? --- Pressing the logic just as hard as we can, we now ask how there could have been a Paul or a Peter or a Jerusalem church? How can there be any

fruit from a dead tree? --- The persistent 'Jew-fig-tree' theorist is committing Church suicide. For he will have to throw out of the window all of the New Testament, which was written by Jews after they were supposed to have been cursed forever, to have had their roots dried up, never again to bear fruit. --- A fig basket is not a fig tree, and nothing is gained in common sense by trying to make it so. Nor will the fig tree parable in Luke 13:6-9 be of any help ---. In neither case is it stated that the fig tree is the Jewish nation---. In the Luke incident there is only one fig tree in the whole vineyard! So you see the cure which our friends offer is worse than the disease. They create more questions than they answer."

- So much from the noted Christian Jewish scholar and leader. And may I here state clearly that I fully believe this Cohen is commendably carrying on A VERY GOOD WORK so ably begun by his late father. Yet the fact of a person doing a very splendid Christian Work does not in itself place THE SEAL OF AUTHORITY on his every spoken word; nor yet necessarily reconcile it with common sense! And finally, let us never forget that no matter how incorrect or false the specific writings of a man may be found, THAT in no way annuls the GOOD WORK he otherwise does ..... Let us be willing and eager to give credit and show appreciation for whatever GOOD a man may work, but not forgetting that with lightning rapidity we should weed out error, and knock into oblivion all UNtruths. Let our war against darkness, ignorance and error progress in might; yet let caution be our watchword lest we harm THE PERSON who is doing a good work in the midst of darkness and hemmed in by racial love.

Speaking of "reason," we see where he points out that there was "only one fig tree in the whole vineyard." What he had in mind I do not know, but the inference seems to be that with only ONE fig tree in the vineyard, it could therefore not symbolize the Jewish nation! Perhaps there are many Jewish nations? Or maybe God should have a general mixture of trees in His "vineyard."?

I seek not to defend "Bible teachers" neither am I against Christian Jewish laborers for the Master; but the great issue I take is with ERROR. Therefore, to make my position clear, let me be plain and to the point by saying:

THE FIG TREE SYMBOLIZES THE JEWISH NATION! And the PROOF shall be supplied!

By the words of Yahweh Himself, according to Ezekiel 17th chapter, we see how He employs a cedar TREE to typify the House of Israel. (Of necessity, God uses a number of different objects to typify a

people; for, one inanimate thing cannot portray all factors of a great people.) Again in the vision of king Nebuchadnezzar, Daniel - the prophet of God - said that the TREE the king had seen was "THOU, Oh king, that art grown and become strong ---." (Dan 4:22). Here, then, we see by God's own declared words that He uses a TREE to symbolize a NATION, or even a great king who heads and founds a NEW EMPIRE..... Let us then turn to Hosea 9:10, and read:

"I found Israel like grapes in the wilderness; I saw your fathers as the firstripe in THE FIG TREE at her first time. --"

You need not be told that the above IS THE WORD OF GOD; and, almighty tho He be, He himself cannot deviate one iota from what He has spoken! Clearly has He declared the "FIG TREE" to symbolize THE JEWISH NATION, all Cohens to the contrary notwithstanding-who are eager to speak much of what they know so little. (Observe on page 20 the quoted words of this Christian Jew: "Nowhere in the word of God will you find that Israel is called the fig tree")..... Observe carefully that God personally saw Israel's "fatherS" as the firstripe (figs) in THE FIG TREE! And tho Jewry to a man were to scream themselves hoarse proclaiming that the fig tree does not symbolize their nation, the fact remains that God has personally said so, and TRUE SHALL HIS WORD REMAIN THRU THE AGES UNENDING!

Referring to the parable in Jeremiah, the Christian Jew says that "a fig basket is not a fig tree, and nothing is gained in common sense by trying to make it so."

I doubt anyone would argue that! But is not man's cranium formed to house a bit of intelligence? Then why not use it and think straight to the point, and reason with wisdom that we may glorify Him in whose image we were created?

A tree is used to symbolize A NATION, or even a great man or king who heads or fathers a nation. Its branches become its numerous tribes or great families; at times a lesser and reigning king may portray the same. Its twigs show the still lesser family offshoots. While its FRUIT (as the "FIG in the fig tree") portray the specialized groups, communities or especially chosen numbers WHO BRING FORTH GOOD UNTO GOD. It is the EDIBLE PORTION which God can use in His Kingdom-plan; that good food which strengthens and upbuilds for His work to progress and carry on. While the leaves become the lesser and commonplace populace which serve to receive the sunlight and draw upwards the energizing, mineral laden sap.

So we show forth intelligence, or only vaunt our ignorance by saying

ing that a basket is not a tree? In the vision that God showed Jeremiah, there were two baskets: one with GOOD FIGS and the other with naughty figs. ... But may we not suppose that those figs had been produced by a fig TREE, and later placed in a BASKET? Or did God say Hokus Pokus and the feathers from off a moulting hen became FIGS? But hardly! So I repeat: what can we prove by such empty verbiage that a basket is not a tree, except that we are not glorifying that IMAGE after which we were patterned? ..... Read carefully Jer 24:5-6, and you will see as above stated, that the good figs were those God WOULD USE TO STRENGTHEN, UPBUILD AND CARRY ON (His kingdom work) ..... And as any specified group of people come out of THE NATION, so does the FIG come out of or from THE FIG TREE.

God Himself has boldly declared that He beheld the fathers of Israel as the first ripe (figs) in the FIG TREE. Wherefore I exhort you as one commissioned: ACCEPT THE WORD OF GOD AND LET THAT SETTLE THE MATTER FOR ALL TIME; closing your ears to babblers in the night who chatter in their dreams.....

Let us now view some of the "arguments" or "reasonings" which purport to explode the myth (?) that the fig tree portrays the Jewish nation.

He then goes on to say that if the Jewish nation was "cursed forever" and "dried up from the roots" then it could never again produce fruit; nor could the Jewish nation ever again become established. And if cursed forever with its roots dried up, then THAT would preclude a Paul and a Peter and a Jerusalem Church (which, manifestly, were a portion of the fruits of the Jewish nation).

I stand in amazement at tongue tied parrots in our land who - - it would appear - are unable to readily and with finality refute such UNScriptural tangents, and shallow reasonings which are an insult to the throne of Logic!

Our Jewish friend states in his brochure that the 24th ch. of Matthew has to do with the signs of the Lord's coming and "the end of the age or Aion." Yet let now the reader observe carefully: altho the said Jewish scholar CORRECTLY translates the Greek Aion of Mtt. 24:3 as referring to this eon, age or "era", he lapses into the "for ever" rendering of the A. V. when it comes to PRECISELY THE SAME GREEK "AION" of Mtt. 21:19 Mk. 11:14! I ask of you: is that honesty?

Emphatically do I state: Jesus did not curse the fig tree "for ever", but only for the eon, or the era. Manifestly, other "aions" or eras

would follow. Thru such eons His curse had no effect, for, verbatimly considered the curse was but for ONE ERA.

NEXT let us observe that the curse was to prevent FUTURE fruit as within THE AION SPECIFIED. THAT had nothing to do with figs or fruit ALREADY IN EXISTENCE, AND WHICH A LITTLE MORE SUNSHINE AND TIME WOULD FULLY MELLOW AS THEY AWAITED IN THE BASKETS OF THE OWNER OF THE FIG TREE! (By this I refer to such figs as John and Peter and Paul and the others who composed "the Jerusalem Church."

Yet one more point, and ALL IMPORTANT is it: In Mk 11:20 we read: "AND IN THE MORNING as they passed by they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots."

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ALL of my students in Prophetic Truth understand such language. And you need not be told that thus it became prophetic of THE MORROW; that is, the following ONE THOUSAND YEARS WITH THE LORD!

Do you not perceive how the vapid mouthings of the ignorant fall to pieces so soon as the TWO-EDGED SWORD of our Lord flashes, and His INSIGNIA IS LAID BARE? ..... FUTURE fruit for the eon was not to be produced; while "on the morrow" the tree (Jewish nation) was found "dried up from the roots." And did not the era dawning around 1000 A. D. find the Jewish nation scattered, peeled, "dried up from the roots" and utterly without fruit? And THAT is why the Jewish nation went down, and Jewish Christendom of early days "petered out" at the decease of its early fathers.

NOT for the dying hours of THAT "day" for which He was the blazing LIGHT did His curse have effect, but for the TIME impending neither for the fruit previously taken off the good tree -- awaiting in the Master's basket the Lord's will - but that fruit should not commence to grow on it IN THE FUTURE.

NEXT he claims that IF dried up from the roots - IF indeed representative of the Jewish nation, then it could NEVER come to life and yield its fruit thenceforth!



should settle the question! What is the truth concerning this?"

Again the selfsame BASIC problem of confusion caused by a multitude of babblers in the night. Nor is it possible for me to reply to all such childish prattle by those vaunting authority. I can only deal with BASIC issues and DIVINE TRUTH. In the little brochure "KNOW THE TRUTH" I have shown how GOD HAS SPOKEN, making clear unto all generations WHAT THE TRUE FACTS OF THE CASE ARE ..... And tho the entire theological school and its parrot-protoges should arise to ARGUE, the declared Word of God is precise, concise and clear beyond the slightest trace of ambiguity. Speaking of what has been mistranslated "punishment", He says their "smoke rose up for the Aion AND for the Aion." Come to your right senses and let us take an eonian vacation from dreaming: Can God punish erring souls for ALL TIME AND for ALL TIME? Whenever THAT can be demonstrated, then has also been demonstrated that God is but a babbler! God is CLEAR and to the point, with not one word out of place! Once has He spoken; yes, TWICE that the SEAL of authority should stand unquestioned (see Rev 14:11 & 19:3)! Since He says "for the eon AND for the eon" then we know for a certainty that THAT "eon" is of limited duration in time. Let man babble as he wills, but assay not to contort the Word of God.

Yet let us look at the words emanating from the Barnhouse:

He claims it literally to be "unto the ages of the ages." When it comes to these little filled-in words in the Greek and ancient languages, naturally there is a certain amount of latitude, or room for argument. Yet let us now concede that the alleged rendering is THE CORRECT one. WHAT SENSE DOES IT MAKE? Must we tremble because someone has spoken - foolishness? For the good of little ones in understanding who cannot cope with the Greek, let us take the same thot and transfer it to words we can understand; thus:

"Unto the days of the days," or, "unto the weeks of the weeks" or "unto the years of the years"! Is there such a mental acrobat among my readers who can make anything but jargon out of such sentences? THEY DON'T MAKE SENSE! Wherefore, his claimed correct rendering NEITHER MAKES SENSE! Therefore IT IS NOT THE WORD OF GOD!

However, IF we will cut off the plural (ageS) which rightfully does not belong here, and then place a mark of accent under "the", it will make sense, thus:

would follow. Thru such eons His curse had no effect, for, verbatimly considered the curse was but for ONE ERA.

NEXT let us observe that the curse was to prevent FUTURE fruit as within THE AION SPECIFIED. THAT had nothing to do with figs or fruit ALREADY IN EXISTENCE, AND WHICH A LITTLE MORE SUNSHINE AND TIME WOULD FULLY MELLOW AS THEY AWAITED IN THE BASKETS OF THE OWNER OF THE FIG TREE! (By this I refer to such figs as John and Peter and Paul and the others who composed "the Jerusalem Church."

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What piffle for a God-fearing Jew to voice! What about the valley of dry bones of Ezek 37? Did not the Word and Spirit of God drape them with flesh and sinew and infuse them with LIFE (Which valley of bones was symbolic of the spiritually dead House of Israel.) And he is also aware of the emphatic words of the Apostle whom he recognized as the inspired mouthpiece of God, that the branches broken off from the true olive tree (which branches would be absolutely dead), "IF they abide not still in unbelief ---- GOD IS ABLE TO GRAFF THEM IN AGAIN!" - Rom 11:23

Why blabber in such peurile faith as to imply that the Lord who speaks the Word and the tree is dead, cannot later speak and THE TREE LIVES?" for, with God nothing shall be impossible!"

Look again but to Mk 11:23, and we see wherein He said:

"Of a truth I tell you, whosoever shall say unto this Mountain: Be thou removed and be thou cast into the sea ----- he shall have whatsoever he saith!

Here, "THIS mountain" again referred to the selfsame JEWISH NATION, concerning which it was the Lord Jesus Christ who was strong enuf in the faith to speak without doubting in His heart. And THAT Jewish mountain was indeed cast into the gentile soul-sea of death and stagnation! (The "dead sea" is the closest sea to Jerusalem and the "mountain" on which He then stood.)

Ordinarily I would not feel justified in making this lengthy discourse were it not for the fact that a lot of humble gentile Christians stand in mute awe and trepidation when a Jewish scholar speaks. Surely, say they, THIS we can rely on! Yet I can only tremble before the Majesty of TRUTH, and pray for strength to wield His TWO EDGED SWORD, by the shimmering edges of which I shall "cut down to size" whosoever is mouthing error, or assays to show up one Spirit tutored.

And the second student-problem is of a very similar nature, and is voiced by our Baltimore friend Mr. T. G. C. who writes:

"Re the discussion of 'eon and eon' will you kindly advise what word is properly translated 'everlasting' or 'eternal'? ..... In a sermon or Article (the Great Panorama) one of the very prominent evangelists (Donald Grey Barnhouse) says: 'The reign of Christ is stated to be 'for ever and ever.' Then he says: 'In the Greek it is literally 'unto the ages of the ages' '. Then he says some claim there is no eternal punishment. His answer is that the duration of doom of the wicked is described in THE SAME TERMS as that used to depict the reign of Christ. He says: 'That

should settle the question! What is the truth concerning this?"

Again the selfsame BASIC problem of confusion caused by a multitude of babblers in the night. Nor is it possible for me to reply to all such childish prattle by those vaunting authority. I can only deal with BASIC issues and DIVINE TRUTH. In the little brochure "KNOW THE TRUTH" I have shown how GOD HAS SPOKEN, making clear unto all generations WHAT THE TRUE FACTS OF THE CASE ARE ..... And tho the entire theological school and its parrot-protoges should arise to ARGUE, the declared Word of God is precise, concise and clear beyond the slightest trace of ambiguity. Speaking of what has been mistranslated "punishment", He says their "smoke rose up for the Aion AND for the Aion." Come to your right senses and let us take an eonian vacation from dreaming: Can God punish erring souls for ALL TIME AND for ALL TIME? Whenever THAT can be demonstrated, then has also been demonstrated that God is but a babbler! God is CLEAR and to the point, with not one word out of place! Once has He spoken; yes, TWICE that the SEAL of authority should stand unquestioned (see Rev 14:11 & 19:3)! Since He says "for the eon AND for the eon" then we know for a certainty that THAT "eon" is of limited duration in time. Let man babble as he wills, but assay not to contort the Word of God.

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"unto the day of days", or "unto the week of weeks" or "un to the year of years" or "until the eon of the eons"; then have we voiced clarity of thot in bespeaking A SPECIAL day, week, year or "age" looked forward to in the impending days, weeks, years or a g e s. And IF we make this concession (as to translation) WHICH IS THE ONLY POSSIBLE WAY OF MAKING SENSE OUT OF A HODGE PODGE OF WORDS, what have we arrived at?

But PRECISELY THE SAME thot of A LIMITED DURATION OF TIME indicated by A SPECIFIC era (aion or eon), even the same as the time LIMITATION is indicated by the eon AND the eon!

Then he goes on thinking to uphold "eternal punishment." (WHY will not such men be honest and tell the people plainly that t h e y expound God as A HEARTLESS BEAST AND SPIRITUAL MONSTROSITY - the likes of which has never been found among the most depraved of humanity's sons?)

He says it has been stated that Christ shall reign "for ever AND ever" and that the doom of the wicked has been described IN PRECISELY THE SAME WORDS". And "THAT - says he - should settle the question." ..... Supposing now that we just take him at his words, so what?

"For ever (eon) AND ever" (eon) again refers to LIMITATION of time. To this the apostle Paul boldly attested by saying:

"Then cometh THE END, when He shall have delivered up the Kingdom to God - Even The FATHER. --- For He must reign TILL He has put all enemies under His feet. --- And when all things shall be subdued unto Him, then shall the Son also Himself be subject unto Him that put all things under Him ---." (I Cor 15: 24-25, 28).

Need a hammer be used to knock us dead before we realize that the "END" means TERMINATION, and NOT time UNending? To imagine that Christ's REIGN over the KINGDOM is to be for time UNending, is but a childish concept, and the very opposite to the clearest of Scripture... Such children imagine that Christ became in order to manifest His power to REIGN, and that humans were created but for subjects to be reigned over. THAT is not the Plan of God for the Ages! HUMANS are the earthly manifest incarnation of a Spirit wave or waves of BEGOTTEN BEINGS thru the creative fiat. These were not brot into being to be REIGNED OVER any more than an earthly father begets children merely to have someone to "boss around." When the children are grown up they "go on their own." Likewise, when His "eonian Plan" has

been consummated, THEN have all begotten spirit-beings (which are the factual children of Christ) manifesting on earth, been tutored, schooled, tried and tested and PERFECTED ("unto the measure of the stature of Jesus Christ"). They have entered into the full heritage and rewards of the "OVERCOMERS" of Rev 21:7. Thus, when "death" is fully ceased to be, then there is no further need for "a Kingdom" for reign or RULERSHIP any more than when a son in the maturity of years has entered into the equal prudence of his father, he needs not be "bossed around." The "reign" is for the disciplining of the nations and the perfecting of all begotten beings. When THAT is fully accomplished, then the Kingdom (rulership) "folds Up" that "the FATHER may be all in all."

Whereby we see that even according to the fiery hay from the barnhouse: even as is the reign of Christ, so shall also be the doom of the wicked; that is, BOTH OF LIMITED DURATION!

IF you do not like these plain Truths, please seek no argument with me; for, they are but the PLAINEST OF INSPIRED STATEMENTS, and I challenge whomsoever - be he from the barn, the field or the seminary - to refute the merest iota of these declarations, TRUE to the uttermost reaches of space and for time unending.

As to our friend's question as to what Greek word is "properly translated 'everlasting' or 'eternal'? The answer is that I KNOW OF NONE SUCH! The Greek words thus rendered are but "Aion" (our English "eon") and "Aionian" ("eonian"). In the A. V. these very words have been given a multitude of different renderings, such as World, age, ever, for ever, eternal, everlasting, et cetera.

As stated in "KNOW THE TRUTH", the Greek Aion in ancient time was the word for an UNSpecified period of time, answering to the English equivalent of Age or Era. The "eternal" and "everlasting" diabolical contortion of Truth was attached in the era of an upsurging SELFISH TYRANNY OVER HUMAN SOULS; SOUGHT TO INCREASE THEIR POWER AND EXTEND THE BOUNDARIES OF THEIR TEMPORAL REALM, BY MEANS OF FEAR FOSTERED IN THE DARKNESS OF IGNORANCE; HOLDING HUMAN SOULS IN THE THRALDOM OF STARK FEAR AND ABJECT SLAVERY; DOING OUT THE SOPS OF "INDULGENCES" AND THE OTHERWISE ALLEGED POWER TO "FORGIVE SINS AND "FREE FROM PURGATORY." What plain hell-tripe!

"How long must I bear with you" said the Christ? ... And now - beloved - altho I shall certainly not tell you to shut off your radios nor to stop hearing or reading would-be expositors of God's Word, I do sincerely wish to CAUTION you. Be careful and BE SLOW to swallow the mouthings which these days impinge from every airway. There may be therein much good and truth, yet an overdosage of fiction! And UNLESS and UNTIL such "teachers" clearly demonstrate God's CREDENTIAL given them, then flatly reject them as "teachers." IF you seek Truth and that PEACE PROF-OUND which is the fruit of Truth entrenched deep within the soul, then may I admonish you to heed the words bearing the Divine CREDENTIAL going forth these days. And the more you heed His TWO-edged Sword, the LESS will you listen to or care for the multitude of babble emanating in the night. On the other hand IF you will not heed the Divine CREDENTIAL so amply furnished, then may I counsel you to throw aside my writings and read them no more, lest - like a fire in your bones - they destroy your peace-in-delusion you prefer to receive from places of prestige.

Momentarily for an added remark about the Lord's Parable of the Vineyard with its one fig tree. In my original writings termed "Rebekah's Veil" this parable was fully elucidated, together with the Lord's cursing of the fig tree, as well as His parable of the unfruitful fig tree. However, in the REwriting and REvamping of the manuscript for a numbered series, the said portion was temporarily omitted. The intention was - AND STILL IS - for this to be enlarged, and constitute the brochure Rebekah's Veil #14. I still have the hopes of getting around to this. But the maze of work before me is fantastic ...

As to the Greek word "Aionian" I believe it can best be rendered Age-LASTING. He speaks of age-LASTING life. Enter not into the childish notion that IF it be but age-LASTING, then that will be but very limited, implying annihilation. Such thots are rank folly. We must bear in mind that the physical body as we know it becomes ridden with disease and battered down by the stress of TIME. We might say that it is the STRESS AND STRAIN of ages which terminates the life of the human body, because sin having entered has sown the seed of disruption; so with the SOUL-body, It too succumbs to THE STRESS OF THE AGES - because of its inherent weakness thru SIN ... Wherefore, His reference to an AGE-LASTING LIFE was but a reference to THAT LIFE which is not subject to the stress of TIME, having received that which has the power to eradicate the stain of sin. It was an expression

much similar to what today in industry is termed "an heat-resistant alloy." Should we then postulate that such heat-resistant alloys can but take one or two heat waves before it disintegrates? But no! They mean that such alloys can "take it" indefinitely up to the limits of its terrific capacity to withstand heat. SUCH was the meaning of the Lord's phrase "eonian life" or that life which does not crumble under the impinging stress of THE AGES.

Slightly different were a few of his expressions such as found in Jhn 6:51 ("for the eon") & 58; 8:51. These we can contrast with His declarations of "eonian life" as found in Jhn 5:24; 6:47 & 10:28. In the former instances He spoke of a LIFE for the physical body of flesh and blood, which He guaranteed capable of "taking it on the chin" for the impending era (of about 2000 years), until the GLORIFICATION of that body when it would be launched on to the next higher plane of manifestation. In the latter instances He spoke of that incorruptible LIFE which He would impart: t h a t LIFE capable of withstanding the STRESS OF TIME and laf triumphantly over every snare of the enemy!

Little children, can you not discern His Plan of the Ages and grasp in a measure that LOVE which took Him to the Cross and Darkness' hour upon His soul, that you and I might LIFE abundant have, and rise in glory-triumph to the peaks uplit by LOVE - transcendent in its scope? ... Then banthru time unending all thot, creed and word which casts into the mire His blood which bought you, and seeks to villify His LOVE which brot you into being.

God is A SPIRIT. His LIFE and His LOVE are inseparable. His WISDOM implies PERFECTION of the Plan (for His creation). His POWER guarantees the Plan's consummation, while THAT means the eventual PERFECTION of all spirits begotten by His Word-in-LOVE-POWER. To THAT end did He come in person to lay down His LIFE - by means of which EONIAN LIFE could be transmitted to those who love Him. And by which LOVE the great cleansing - purging - "Lake of Fire" can be circumvented. Benot deceived that it is non-existent! But as factual as life itself! Even as mother's little darling in pure white when she falls into the mire: the bathtub becomes A MUST. And IF some of the garments are stained beyond redemption - they will simply be destroyed. And her darling must await new clothes. Even so with the spirit being. IF the garments of flesh and soul become too steeped in sin, then such garments must be destroyed in the Lake of Fire. But to avoid that painful purging LOSS was a CLEANSING MEDIUM pro-



vided thru the very life of God. We apply it and LIVE - i n o u r garments - THRU AGES UNENDING, or we reject it and enter the INEVITABLE LAKE OF FIRE following the "Great Throne Judgment."

Look and LIVE; believe and REJOICE!

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What is the precise meaning of, "Judge not, that ye be not judged" ?

Is it true that the Adversary will often punish believers for the good they do ?

\*\*\* "JUDGE NOT - that ye be not judged," - Jesus - Mtt 7:1 (see  
\*\*\* also Lk 6:36-38)

A student - Thos. G. C. - writes in re the above passage, and then points out that the Christ enjoined of us to first confront those who do us wrong, and if without results, to take witnesses and take him before the church. IF still without avail, then treat him as a sinner -- having no more contacts with him. He a l s o refers to Paul who said to cast out fornicators and the like, a n d have nothing more to do with them...Then he adds this question: "The point is, in each of these cases, are not the evil doers 'judged' ? So what does 'Judge not that ye be not judged' -- mean ? There seems to be exceptions."

This does not appear too difficult. We must bear in mind the context of the Lord's admonition, as well as that of the other passages. Here Luke is more informative in that he quotes the Lord as first saying: "Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful." Then in I Cor 5:9-13 & 6:1-7, Paul speaks of casting out the UNregenerate from their midst; also to appoint some elder from their midst to act as JUDGE between the brethren, rather than taking such matters to a civil court. This last injunction is in perfect harmony with the Lord's admonition to take the offender before the church (spiritual head rather than civil courts).

Jesus said: "Be MERCIFUL - even as is God." Wherefore He added "Judge not ---". Supposing you catch a man in a minor theft. But you know not His Spirit of CHARITY. So forthwith you make him RESTORE TENFOLD, or threaten him with jail. Another person fails to keep a promise given you. Forthwith y o u s a y within yourself: "That so-and-so deliberately lied to me - NE -

But THAT does not outlaw courts of justice, nor an impartial judge; neither does it speak against an Assembly "keeping its own house in order."

Here is another one sent in by Zona F, who says: "Before beginning to study with P.C. I did not have a very clear picture of just how much the 'Adversary' can do to us. Since studying with you it has been coming to my mind that he - the enemy - can do NOTHING unless it is permitted of God. Also that God will permit nothing to come to us from the enemy unless we are in error. Many times we hear a Christian say that they are being hounded by Satan because they are serving God. That if the enemy lets them alone they can be sure that they are NOT doing what they should be doing for God. Your teachings tend to say just the opposite."... Here she relates how at the recent Bible Conference she met a woman who was so troubled with her foot she kept it up in a chair. A question brot out the story that this woman who claims to LIVE ACCORDING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT had been at some other Conference where she learnt that there were DIVORCED men in the pulpit. Whereupon she was impelled ("by the Spirit") to get to her feet and, over the P. A. system vigorously denounce divorced men in the pulpit, reading them "the riot act." Whereupon as soon as she sat down her foot commenced to trouble - and ever since. Which plague she claimed had been inflicted by the devil because SHE HAD SERVED GOD .... T O which Zona F adds: "Surely, if we obey His Holy Spirit --- then He would reward rather than permit rebuke.

Let me draw to your attention the Scripture: "---- he that comes to God must believe that He IS, and that He is a REWARDER of them that dilligently seek Him." Heb 11:6

From there on the Apostolic writer cites case after case where men of God had OBEYED HIS VOICE, such as Noah and Abraham and Isaac and others. Nor need we stop where he did, but from opening to close in Scripture we find the FAVOR of God upon those who sought Him and the pleasure of His will; and the INDIGNATION Of God upon those who DISOBEYED His will, and who made light of His pleasure. And what about the CURSES from Mt Ebal? (Deut 11:29) There, and again in Deut 27 and 28 we see the numerous CURSES as the result of DISOBEDIENCE, while BLESSINGS without number as the consequence of OBEDIENCE. Bear then in mind that God is not capricious, and "changes not."

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Offhand I can recall of no instance of Scripture where we are told that evil overtook anyone BECAUSE OF GOOD OR RIGHTEOUSNESS. Nor personally would I give two bits for a god who metes out evil for GOOD works! Such a beast cannot be reconciled with the glorious Yahweh of the Old Testament, nor yet with the compassionate and forgiving Christ of the New. Hear the Words of Yahweh the Creator:

\* \* "The LORD God, MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS, longsuffering and abundant in goodness and Truth; keeping mercy for thousands; forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin; (yet) that will by no means clear the guilty." - Deut 34:6-7.

Even the ancient hoary heads recognized the equity of God, and said: "the curse causeless SHALL NOT COME." (Prov 26:2) For, they knew that He was a God 'without iniquity' and just and righteous (Deut 32:4).

And our Lord assured us that as little as giving a cup of cold water even in the name of a disciple (of His), would not go unnoticed, but bring its reward. (Mtt 10:42).

True, we are told that God chastises those He loves, even as a father his son. Yet we should not be so pernicious as to claim that He will "chastise" those He loves BECAUSE THEY DO GOOD!

Also, Paul speaks of "Satan hindered us" (I Thes 2:18), with reference to times when he had hoped and planned to travel to them for their further edification and blessings.

But let us get the facts straight: Paul had planned a good deed for the Gospel's sake, but had been HINDERED by the enemy. THAT is vastly different from being punished for good he HAD done! Manifestly, the 'Adversary' must be about his business, otherwise would he not be the 'Opponent' or Withstander!..... God may permit - at times - a certain amount of 'hindrance' (by media of the Adversary), to test one's WILL TO DO RIGHT (IF that person KNOWS POSITIVELY that it is right). But NEVER to afflict him because he HAS DONE good!

Had the woman in question been smitten in her foot BEFORE she went to make the blast against the divorced men, then she might have had reason to question IF it might not be the Adversary 'hindering her?' But to claim that she became afflicted BECAUSE SHE SERVED GOD in doing His good pleasure IS AN ABOMINABLE INDICTMENT AGAINST GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST TRACE OF TRUTH, OR SCRIPTURE BACKING!

Yet let us examine the case further: Did this "Spirit led" (?) woman KNOW that the preachers in question were divorced CONTRARY to God's Word? Creed-bound: prepare yourselves for a shock! The Bible makes no sweeping condemnation of divorce! (Yes, you may read that again!) Its castigation is of UNJUSTIFIED divorce! And now brace yourselves for the second shock! The man who continues living with an unfaithful wife, not only enters into her uncleanness, but IS AN ABETTOR OF HER SIN! And vice versa if the man is unfaithful ..... What! Will a court of our land hold you guiltless if you are the keeper of stolen property? Of course not! But you will share in the just castigation by the judge, and in the penalty of the thief .... And when a man continues to KEEP a woman who steals that which does not belong to her, he is a protector of her sin! It becomes his DUTY to cast her out, or part from her. THAT IS DIVORCE (whether or not thus set down in the records of a divorce court)!

God is JUST and RIGHTEOUS and FAITHFUL; wherefore, it is utterly impossible for Him to ask of man to condone and PROTECT UNfaithfulness! And THAT stated the Christ clearly and boldly in Mtt 5:32: "WHOSOEVER shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication ----" by which words HE FULLY SANCTIONED DIVORCE in cases of unfaithfulness. Nor are His words as found in Mk 10:6-12 the slightest refutation of His statement in Mtt 5:32 when the correct meaning of the words are taken into consideration ..... God is not two-faced, neither does He bandy words to our confusion. Where He once condemns, that IS condemned; and when once He sanctions, that IS sanctioned - all creed-inspired HATRED and bigotry notwithstanding.

Yet let us pose one more question: Supposing the preachers whom she castigated were divorced CONTRARY to the will of God. So what? Was she in a position to say that IF they had thus sinned, that they had not come to a full repentance of their sin? That they had not sought His forgiveness? Did not Moses start out as a murderer? Yet THAT did not prevent God from choosing him - 40 years later - to be among the mightiest of all His servants! Did not David enter into abomination, yet God "put away his sin." Did not Peter curse and swear and DENY HIS LORD? Yet the RISEN PRINCE OF COMPASSION called on him especially, and appointed him to be His CHIEF (apostle)! We cannot establish by Scripture that God rejects any man's service - because of a sin in the past. But emphatically do we establish by Scripture that such sinners has He chosen right and left to be His exalted servants!

Wherefore, UNLESS this allegedly Spirit-led woman under discussion, knew positively that the divorced preachers were that without justification; and, UNLESS she knew positively that they were still in a state of NON-repentance, then here was a case of JUDGING harshly in stupid bigotry and self-righteousness, forgetting the words of her Lord: "LEST YE BE JUDGED"!

And altho it is not for me to say emphatically (judging), yet to all appearances, JUDGED SHE WAS THEN AND THERE BY GOD ALMIGHTY!

And His displeasure vividly manifest! And also His UNBOUNDED GRACE! For, had she not been judged then and there (or at least in THIS life), then her sin and its judgment would have "followed AFTER" (see I Tim 5:24). In which case since she had shown no mercy, His GRACE would have been denied her (mtt 7:1). But we may assume that she HAD entered into LIFE; and of SUCH He has said "they shall NOT come into condemnation" (Jhn 5:24). Therefore, by His GRACE She became permitted to EXPIATE her sin here and now!

DID GOD SMITE HER? Or was the Enemy permitted to afflict her? Or was the affliction the outcropping of some disease-condition which might have been in formation over a long period of time?

I think it not too important how these last questions are answered. For, they reduce to six of one and half a dozen of the other! Even IF we say that it was a diseased condition of long standing which just HAPPENED to come to a head right then; we must not overlook God's foresight, and His ability to so co-ordinate events that THE 'chastisement' comes thru a diseased condition, and His JUDGMENT synchronized for on-the-spot at the time for offence!

"Fearfull and wonderfully are we made" - which necessitates our Maker to be even more so. Yes, we have a FANTASTIC Creator! Nor are His ways any less FANTASTIC (in contrast to man's 3-dimensional, one-track mind)!

But now as ever: Stupid mortal must always JUSTIFY HIMSELF, unconcerned over the implied indictment of God. Yet when we awaken to our own grossness, and to God's RIGHTEOUSNESS and POWER, then does God commence to speak to us thru manifold and FANTASTIC ways. Yes, and we learn to not be so eager to JUSTIFY SELF and the hardness of a carnal heart in spewing forth jud-

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on others - some of whom may be better than ourselves!

"JUDGE NOT - LEST YOU ALSO BE JUDGED!"

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N. B:

Enuf questions from the student-body, and answers by Mikkel Dahl, have already been received and dealt with, to fill another two issues, possibly more.

The copy has already been prepared.

We hope to get these run, and available in the near future.

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